

Event Name: BFHD COVID-19

Report Period: 12/31/2020 – 01/06/2021	Mission #: 20-0265	Jurisdictions Impacted: Benton & Franklin Counties
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YELLOW HIGHLIGHTS DENOTE NEW/CHANGED INFORMATION

General Situation/Overview:

On January 21, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Washington State Department of Health announced the first case of 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the United States and in Washington State. As of 3/19/2020 a 24, 48, 72-hour planning projection of the response is being done daily. Friday's planning projection will encompass Saturday and Sunday, then resume normal planning projections on Monday.

Benton and Franklin County At-A-Glance

Total Case Count 1/06/2021	Benton	Franklin
Confirmed*	11904	8925
Deaths**	156	77

*Confirmed: positive test result. **Deaths: BFHD defined a COVID-19 death as someone who died with COVID-19 as their primary cause of death Due to changes in the Vital Statistics Law (RCW 70.58A) that support increased security on personal information, access to data for death records is more limited. BFHD is working to refine our reporting processes in response to these changes.

City Case Count 1/06/2021	April OFM Population	# of Cases
Pasco	77,100	7845
Mesa	495	259
Connell	5,500	500
Kahlotus	165	14
Eltopia	-	123
Kennewick	84,960	6939
Richland	58,550	2754
West Richland	15,710	789
Benton City	3,560	492
Prosser	6220	743
Plymouth	-	36
Paterson	-	19
Not Specified	-	316

Current Hospital Status 1/06/2021 M-F		COVID Like Illness = CLI	
	# Hospitalized Patients	# COVID-19 Confirmed & CLI	% COVID-19 Confirmed & CLI
Current hospitalized patients	396	64	16.2

Case Locations of Interest 1/06/2021	
	# of Cases
Long Term Care Residents and Staff	751

Please visit [Washington State Department of Corrections site](https://www.doc.wa.gov/corrections/covid-19/data.htm) for current case counts at Coyote Ridge Corrections Center. (<https://www.doc.wa.gov/corrections/covid-19/data.htm>)

OPERATIONS SECTION:

OUTBREAK MITIGATION & DATA: Identify the COVID-19 spread, including clusters; track any lab confirmed cases and determine potential exposures. Identify the spread of COVID-19 in long-term care and community living facilities and provide infection control guidance and resources to those facilities. Input data from Epi into existing systems; WDRS and Redcap surveys.

- Active Outbreaks in the community: these outbreaks meet the definition of an outbreak as described in the 10/1/20 Washington Outbreak report – click link below for report
- <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/StatewideCOVID-19OutbreakReport.pdf>
 - **General Business Community** – 17 with 21 pending investigations
 - **Long Term Care Facilities** – 19 with 4 pending investigations
 - **HealthCare Settings** – 7 with 0 pending investigations
 - **Childcare Settings** – 1 with 1 pending investigation
 - **Schools** – 3 with 2 pending investigations
- DOH will host a call today with BFHD to discuss the return of H2A agriculture workers to prep for the upcoming agriculture season - testing and vaccination strategies will be discussed

- BFHD Continues to have calls bi-weekly with the school nurses and weekly with school district administration – topic for this week will be vaccine readiness for school nurses/employees
- Visit each individual school district website for current information on hybrid learning schedules, safety plans and COVID-19 Activity Dashboards
- updated in-person school guidance <https://www.governor.wa.gov/news-media/inslee-announces-updated-school-guidance-person-instruction>
- DOH -Tools to Prepare for Provision of In-Person Learning among K-12 Students at Public and Private Schools during the COVID-19 Pandemic: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/DecisionTree-K12schools.pdf>
- Dr. Amy Person, BFHD Health Officer has issued a letter to the school districts on 11/19/20 with additional recommendations a copy of the letter can be found here https://www.bfhd.wa.gov/UserFiles/Servers/Server_10765972/File/BFHD%20Health%20Officer%20Update%20to%20Schools%20Nov.%2019%202020.pdf

CONTACT TRACING & CARE COORDINATION:

- Care Coordination team connects people in Isolation or quarantine to the services they need to stay isolated. This may be providing a Walgreens Hygiene kit or a Kroger Food box or connecting them with rent assistance, grocery or prescription delivery or other services. With the increasing case count Care Coordination is averaging about over 30 case referrals per day. BFHD/Care Coordination Team has partnered with Yakima Valley Farm Workers who has agreed to take up to 20 household referrals a day to ensure that all those who need services can be reached on a daily basis.
- The BFHD Contact Tracing Team is experiencing extremely high volumes of cases. BFHD is utilizing surge support from the Washington State Department of Health's Case Investigation and Contact Tracing Team, as needed.
- Due to the DOH re-design of their CREST (contact tracing software) BFHD will be re-building their customized views and dashboards and training Contact tracers on the re-designed version

VACCINE PREPAREDNESS:

- Vaccinations have begun via the Federal Pharmacy partnership (Walgreens/CVS pharmacies) within some of our Skilled Nursing facilities and Long-Term Care Facilities

- Updated CDC guidance-Prohibition on providers attempting to seek any reimbursement from any vaccine recipient for out-of-pocket costs (this applies to all recipients, not just underinsured). Admin fees to the insurance provider is acceptable, but providers cannot seek to have the patient pay this.
- Conducting a gap analysis for those Long-Term Care facilities that did not enroll in the Federal Pharmacy Partnership COVID Vaccination program
- Working with the outbreak mitigation group to develop a list of H2A housing facilities in preparation for vaccinations of this group when appropriate
- By the week of January 11th Washington is expected to have received 254,475 doses of Pfizer Vaccine and 107,250 booster doses of Pfizer vaccine (for the 2nd shot 21 days later) and 260,700 doses of the Moderna vaccine, booster doses for the Moderna Vaccine are expected after January 14th (for second shot 28 days later) Benton and Franklin County have received over 10,000 doses across various health care sites
- DOH is developing a PhaseFinder web-based application to allow people to check their COVID-19 vaccine eligibility and to assist with where to get vaccinated by linking to the Vaccine Finder Application. This application is currently under development at DOH and are not available to the public. **January 18, 2021 is the tentative release date**
- DOH is working with agency leadership and the Governor's office to finalize phase 1b/1c guidance. 1A guidance was updated 12.30.2020. Statement from DOH "We acknowledge that some communities are still working through 1A and others will be able to move to this second tier of 1A more quickly than others. Across Washington, it is important that health care systems actively reach out to and provide access to COVID-19 vaccination for community-based health care workforce outside their systems and in their community, this includes other health care providers, school nurses, and behavioral health providers, etc, in order to complete this phase and ensure we have protected healthcare system.
- Vaccinations are still only being given to those people who meet the definition as outlined in Phase 1A <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/VaccineAllocationPhase1A.pdf>
- Vaccination Phase Infographic for Phase (tiers A and B) estimated timeline can be found here [PowerPoint Presentation \(wa.gov\)](#)
- There is NO WAIT list you can call to be placed for receipt of the vaccine however the Department of Health's PhaseFinder will be able to assist with determining eligibility and provider locations – this feature should be available from DOH on January 18th
- BFHD webpage has added a COVID Vaccine page to help answer frequently asked questions <https://www.bfhd.wa.gov/cms/One.aspx?portalId=10766056&pageId=17196242>

COMMUNITY TESTING:

- We wish to thank the HAPO center for hosting the National Guard testing site from July-December. To date the HAPO test site administered ***20,904 COVID tests**. *this total includes #'s from when Toyota Center test site was operational as well)
- **Kennewick Community Test site is LIVE and located at 1709 S Ely in Kennewick.** The National Guard Test Team that was previously located at the HAPO center has transitioned to Kennewick Community testing. Pre-registration for COVID tests can be done at this link [Kennewick COVID-19 Testing \(wacovid19.org\)](http://www.wacovid19.org). The Kennewick site is utilizing the same system and lab as the CBC West Test site. Test results are usually available within 2-3 days (sometimes earlier). Site hours are Tuesday-Friday from 7:00am- 3:00pm
- On the first day of testing 131 COVID tests were administered, Wednesday 1/6-123
- **CBC-West Test Site:** To date the site has administered **49,164 COVID tests**. Testing numbers this week are as follows: Thursday 12/31 – 857, Friday 1/1/2021 Holiday test site closed, Saturday 1/2 -837, Sunday 1/3- 487, Monday 1/4 – 837, Tuesday 1/5- 721, Wednesday 1/6 -667
- **CBC-West Test Site is open 7 days a week Monday -Sunday from 8:30am to 4:00pm** - pre-registration makes for a faster experience at the test site – however you may still have to wait in line until you reach the point where the site breaks into lanes, please be patient. Click the link to be taken to the registration page www.wacovid19.org/tricitiestesting
- Positivity rate for the CBC West Test Site is 18.37% and the positivity rate for the Kennewick Community test Site is 13.61%

PUBLIC INFORMATION:

NEWS AND INFORMATION OF INTEREST:

- Governor Inslee unveils the Healthy Washington, Roadmap-to-Recovery plan - currently the plan consist of 2 phases, with all counties divided into regions. Our region consists of the following counties: Benton, Franklin, Walla Walla, Yakima, Columbia, and Kittitas. All counties/Regions are currently in Phase 1 of the governor's new plan. For a region to move forward to phase 2 the region must meet all 4 metrics:
 - **Decreasing trend in two-week rate of COVID-19 cases** per 100K population (decrease >10%)
 - **Decreasing trend in two-week rate new COVID-19 hospital admission** rates per 100K population (decrease >10%)
 - **ICU occupancy** (total — COVID-19 and non-COVID-19) **of less than 90%**
 - **COVID-19 test positivity rate of <10%**
 - Click the link to view all the details of the Roadmap-to-Recovery and what activities are allowed under Phase 1 and Phase 2 [Inslee announces "Healthy Washington—Roadmap to Recovery" | by WA Governor's Office | Washington State Governor's Office | Jan, 2021 | Medium](#)
 - The state Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB) issued an emergency liquor license suspension for Koko's Bartini due to repeated public safety violations of state COVID-19 guidelines. On December 29, the LCB notified Koko's that unless they chose to comply with state guidelines within 24 hours, the 180-day suspension would be in effect and any liquor sales after that time would not be legal. Evidence shows they were open for indoor service on the evening of Dec. 30, thereby activating the 180-day suspension.
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- Need support during COVID-19? Call Washington Listens - Crisis Connections helps facilitate a support line called Washington Listens. Washington Listens will provide non-clinical support to people who feel sad, anxious, or stressed due to COVID-19. Washington Listens is free and anonymous. Any Washington resident can call, and a support specialist will listen and help to guide you to connections within your community. Call [Washington Listens](#) at 1-833-681-0211. Someone is available to talk from Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and weekends from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. TTY and language access services are available
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- "Ask Dr. Amy" NBC Right Now Wednesdays at 5:00pm - provides the community the opportunity to ask Dr. Amy Person, BFHD Health Officer questions
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- BFHD Media Briefing this week has been canceled
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- BFHD updates [Website](#) [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) daily

LOGISTICS:

PPE RECEIVING/DISTRIBUTION:

- All PPE requests for either Benton County facilities/agencies or Franklin County facilities/agencies will now go through Franklin County Emergency Management. **Reminder entities should only be requesting assistance for those supplies they are unable to procure for themselves.** Contact for PPE request is Sean Davis at sdavis@co.franklin.wa.us
- FYI – Nitrile gloves are in very short supply – Washington Department of Enterprise Services has indicated that the 182 million glove contract with manufacturers have increased their prices far above the amounts agreed upon when the contracts were signed, and they are no longer being honored by the distributors. DES is currently working on securing new contracts for nitrile gloves. Requests for Nitrile gloves will still be filled at a reduced amount, however Medical grade vinyl gloves in all sizes are readily available
- List of PPE vendors the state uses to procure PPE items
<https://des.wa.gov/sites/default/files/public/documents/ContractingPurchasing/covid19/Vendors.pdf>
- If you are curious to know how much PPE each county has received from the state you can find that information here <https://coronavirus.wa.gov/what-you-need-know/personal-protective-equipment/tracking-ppe-distribution>
- Supply both the Kennewick Community Testing Site and CBC-West Testing Site with PPE as needed/requested

DAILY and FUTURE OPERATIONS:

<u>RECURRING ACTIVITIES:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily at 8:00am - Operational Briefing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday Planning meeting at 4:00pm – Planning Meeting via ZOOM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dissemination of BFHD weekly Incident Action Plan released Tuesday's by 5:00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday at 1:00pm – Region 8 Healthcare and partners call
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every other Tuesday at 2:00pm - BFHD hosts local elected officials and decision-makers conference call – next meeting is January 12th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday at 2:00 - SEOC Unified Command Ops to BFHD Command Ops meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unified Situational Report (SitRep) dissemination once weekly - Wednesday only
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday at 10:30am - Local Hospital/Clinic/EMS/EM coordination call via ZOOM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every other Wednesday at 1:00 PM- BFHD School Team hosts a call with local school nursing staff. Due to the holidays, the next meeting is January 13th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every other Wednesday at 1:30pm – Call with local agricultural partners. This call has ended. It will be restarted next year prior to the growing season. Ag partners will be kept engaged via email through the winter. The BFHD Outreach team participates in an Agriculture call hosted by Yakima Health District, hosted the third Friday of every month.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every other Wednesday at 1:00pm - North Franklin County Community Leadership meeting – call in phone 1-509-545-3555 meeting number: 5847# access code: 3555# the next meeting will be January 20, 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thursday at 11:30am - Coordination call with the WA State EOC, 1-877-820-7831, password 782831# - State SitRep is not produced on the weekends it will be sent M-F only
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thursday at 10:00- BFHD School Team hosts a call with local school administration. Due to the holidays, the next meeting is January 7.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every other Thursday at 1:30 - Municipality Advisory Council the next meeting will be January 7th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every other Wednesday at 1:30pm - call with BFHD and LTC agencies
<u>FUTURE OPERATIONS:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COVID vaccine planning progression into the next phases
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthy Washington, Roadmap-to-Recovery Plan metrics and revision /replacement to the previous phased “safe-start” plan
<u>CURRENT RISKS:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rising case counts and an uptick in COVID hospitalizations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Return to in-person/hybrid learning in schools across the two counties – monitoring for outbreaks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flu season and recognition of Flu vs. COVID

WHERE TO FIND MORE INFORMATION:

- Benton-Franklin Health District- All News: <https://www.bfhd.wa.gov>
- Washington State Department of Health: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus>
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- REDI Healthcare Coalition: <https://srhd.org/programs-and-services/hcc/eei->

DISTRIBUTED TO:

Local Health Jurisdiction: Management Team, EOC/ECC Staff, all BFHD Staff

Region 8: Local Emergency Response Coordinators, Emergency Management agencies, healthcare partners, Fire/EMS agencies

WA State: Regional Emergency Response Coordinators, DOH Duty Officer

Eastern WA: REDi Coalition Duty Officer

Cross Boarder: Oregon Regions 6 and 9 Liaisons